CS1101 Introduction to Computer Science

Course/Lab Objectives: Students will learn the foundations of algorithmic thinking and algorithm development, and learn how to implement them in a variety of languages. They will also learn to be active learners. They will develop problem-solving skills and build team skills, critical-thinking skills, and professionalism.

Prerequisite: MATH 1508 or MATH 1411 with a grade of C or better.

Knowledge and Abilities Required Before Entering the Course: Students entering the course are not required to have a background in Computer Science or programming. They should be familiar with topics from Pre-calculus, including algebraic functions, proofs, and base representations of numbers.

Logistics: ================================

Lab sessions: TR 9 a.m. – 10:20 a.m. or TR 12 p.m. – 1:20 p.m. in CCSB 1.0410
Instructor: Dr. Martine Ceberio – mceberio@utep.edu – office room: CCSB 3.0406
Office hours: TR from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. + by appointment & open-door policy

Note: Never drop in on a lab or lecture section other than yours without prior approval from your instructor.

To subscribe to your textbook, please enter the following code: UTEPCS1301CeberioSpring2017
Note: it is the same as for your lecture: no need to subscribe twice!

Communication platform: We will be using Piazza for class discussion. The system is highly catered to getting you help fast and efficiently from classmates, the TA, and myself. Rather than emailing questions to the teaching staff, I encourage you to post your questions on Piazza. If you have any problems or feedback for the developers, email: team@piazza.com.
Find our class page at: https://piazza.com/utep/spring2017/cs1301/home

Software: Software used in this course is available on the desktop computers in the main computer lab and in the two instructional labs on the first floor. For those who wish to use the course software on your home or laptop computer, instructions will be given in the labs and available online on our piazza page.

Important lab rule about using your personal laptop computers:

It is your choice to use your personal computer or UTEP’s desktop to complete the labs assigned to you. However it is essential that you be able to show your work anytime we ask you for it in lab. For instance we will not accept that “your work is on your laptop – or somewhere else – and you cannot produce it at the time we request it”. To avoid such situation you could for instance use Dropbox (dropbox.com on which you get extra free space based on your utep.edu address) and hence make sure that you can access your work from anywhere. Any option you pick, you need to be able to produce your work at any time in lab for our review and grading.

There will be no exception to this rule.
**Grading: ****************************

Grades are turned in to students in a timely manner. It is the students’ responsibility to keep track of their grades by compiling the grades they receive. Your semester grade will be based on a combination of lab assignments, pop quizzes, lab participation, and a final exam.

**Grade for 1101:** The approximate percentages are as follows:

- 55% Labs assignments
- 35% Pop quizzes
- 10% Lab participation (includes on-time attendance, participation in labs, any quizzes for attendance and survey purposes)

The nominal percentage-score-to-letter-grade conversion for CS 1301 is as follows:

- 90% or higher is an A
- 80-89% is a B
- 70-79% is a C
- 60-69% is a D
- Below 60% is an F

*Note:* You must earn a C or better in each of these two courses, CS1301 and CS1101, to continue to the next course in this sequence, which is CS2401.

**Expectations: ****************************

**Lab Assignments:** Lab assignments are designed to allow you to practice the topics covered at the same time in lectures, which are the outcomes of this course. Assignments will be a mix of:

- Assignments from the zybooks textbook;
- Problems to be solved without computers to practice problem solving and algorithm design;
- Standalone programming assignments.

Deadlines for lab assignments will be clearly specified in the description of each assignment. Assignments turned in up to three days late will have scores reduced by 15% for each day of lateness.

When assessing labs, TAs will spend 5 to 10 minutes with each student asking probing questions about the topics covered in the assignments: these questions will be asked regardless of whether you completed the assignment or not. This allows you flexibility, in case something happened and you were not able to complete an assignment, to make up for some points.

**Quizzes:** The purpose of each quiz is to ensure that you are staying current with the weekly assignments and to verify that you have acquired the skills developed in lab. Quizzes will usually be on-line quizzes on socrative.com. **There will be no make-up on missed quizzes.**

**Lab Participation:** Attendance at and participation in all lab sessions are critical factors of your success in this lab course.
Students should be **on time** for all scheduled sessions and attend the entire session. Attendance will be taken at every session and will count towards your class participation grade.

Students should **notify the instructor prior to missing a session** if at all possible, and certainly right after if earlier was not possible. The instructor will allow two unexcused absences per semester before having the option to deduct points from the final grade (5 points per subsequent unexcused absence).

It is the student's responsibility to obtain the content covered during missed labs. Participation points also include completing post-lecture and post-labs online quizzes (when requested) that are administered as surveys to monitor students' overall progress and potential struggles.

**Resources: ===========================**

**Special Accommodations:** If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148 or by email to cass@utep.edu, or visit their office located in UTEP Union East, Room 106. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at www.sa.utep.edu/cass. CASS’ staff are the only individuals who can validate and if need be, authorize accommodations for students with disabilities.

**Scholastic Dishonesty:** Any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable to another person.

**Cheating** is:  
- Copying from the test paper of another student  
- Communicating with another student during a test to be taken individually  
- Giving or seeking aid from another student during a test to be taken individually  
- Possession and/or use of unauthorized materials during tests (i.e. crib notes, class notes, books, etc.)  
- Substituting for another person to take a test  
- Falsifying research data, reports, academic work offered for credit

**Plagiarism** is:  
- Using someone’s work in your assignments without the proper citations  
- Submitting the same paper or assignment from a different course, without direct permission of instructors


**Collusion** is:  
- Unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments

**Important!** When in doubt on any of the above, please contact your instructor to check if you are following authorized procedure.
Detailed Learning Outcomes (common to CS1301 and CS1101)

**Level 1: Knowledge and Comprehension.** Level 1 outcomes are those in which the student has been exposed to the terms and concepts at a basic level and can supply basic definitions. On successful completion of this course, students will be able to describe, at a high level:

1. The history of computing
2. The relation between computing and society, including main social, ethical, and legal issues
3. Computing as a profession, from required knowledge and skills to major career options
4. Computer representation of simple data types and operations, including operations with binary numbers
5. Technical aspects of computing, including memory, operating systems, editors, interpreters, compilers, debuggers, and virtual machine
6. Differences among programming languages
7. The purpose and use of exceptions

**Level 2: Application and Analysis.** Level 2 outcomes are those in which the student can apply the material in familiar situations, e.g., can work a problem of familiar structure with minor changes in the details. Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able:

1. To analyze problems and express solution algorithms in pseudocode
2. To implement pseudocode algorithms in a high-level language, including the correct use of:
   a. Arithmetic and logical expressions
   b. Simple I/O operations
   c. User-defined subprograms, including recursive methods
   d. User-defined types
3. To use testing and debugging strategies, including black-box and white-box testing, test drivers, stubs and test suites, to identify software faults
4. Use teamwork roles and methods in the classroom

**Level 3 Outcomes: Synthesis and Evaluation.** Level 3 outcomes are those in which the student can apply the material in new situations. This is the highest level of mastery. On successful completion of this course, students will be able to use the syntax and semantics of a higher-level language to express solutions to programming problems, including the correct use of:

1. Basic variable types such as integer, real number, character, string, 1-D array
2. Assignment, arithmetic, and logical operations
3. Basic control structures: if-then, for-loop, while-loop